



## PLASTIC BAG ROUNDUP CHALLENGE

### A RECYCLING PROGRAM OFFERING WINNING OPPORTUNITIES!

#### HOW DOES IT WORK?

1. Participating Lafayette Parish elementary and middle schools compete against each other to collect and recycle the most used plastic bags, which would otherwise be thrown away as trash.
2. School volunteers weigh and track the amount of plastic film collected each month and report their monthly totals, through an online reporting tool. (As an example, a 30 gallon trash bag will hold about 650 plastic bags and weigh approximately 8 lbs.).
3. The bags are delivered by an adult volunteer to any four of the local Albertson's grocery store locations on Monday each week, where it is then sent to be repurposed into manufactured products.
4. The school that collects the most amount of used plastic film (by weight) per student capita at the end of the challenge will earn a free park bench made from remanufactured plastic bags! Each participating school will receive a certificate with a frame, also made from recycled plastic film.
5. The challenge launches on America Recycles Day (**Nov. 15**) and ends the week before Earth Day (**Apr. 14**), when final tallies are due.
6. All participating schools will receive the following supplies for the program:
  - Bins
  - Display Posters
  - Magnets for each student
  - A Scale to weigh the bags

**TYPES OF PLASTIC FILM ACCEPTED:** All plastic must be clean, and dry and free of residue

- Grocery bags
- Bread bags
- Drink case overwrap
- Dry cleaning bags
- Newspaper sleeves
- Wood pellet bags
- Ziploc and other reclosable bags
- Produce bags
- Bubble wrap
- Cereal and Ice bags

#### WHAT'S THE PROBLEM WITH PLASTIC BAGS?

Plastic bags are not accepted through our curbside recycling program and contribute to thousands of pounds of waste being sent to our landfill that can otherwise be recycled. Plastic bags also become litter when not properly disposed. This project helps educate students about our role to protect our environment and teach about the 3R's (Reduce, Reuse, Recycle) approach to plastic bags, as well as teach about a 4<sup>th</sup> R- Remanufacturing!

#### HOW DO I PARTICIPATE?

Email Lisa Mahoney at [lmahoney@lafayettela.gov](mailto:lmahoney@lafayettela.gov) by Thursday December 1, 2016 in order to sign up.